

STATEWIDE ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

ALBUQUERQUE AREA - Santa Fe Railway laid off approximately 175 workers at its centralized shop facility in Albuquerque in mid-February. The Albuquerque layoff was part of work force reductions throughout the Santa Fe system. Presbyterian Hospital Center plans to seek construction bids this fall on its proposed \$14 million, 120-bed hospital near the Osuna-San Mateo exit of I-25. The new hospital is expected to be completed in 1984.

Work has started on a 30,000 square foot, \$1.2 million office building in the Uptown area by NZ Development Company and Omix Realities Incorporated. Bueno Foods Incorporated has purchased a 16 acre site in the South Barelaz Industrial Park where the firm plans to construct a \$2.7 million food processing plant beginning late this year. Although the semi-conductor industry remains in a slump, Signetics Corporation still plans to open its new manufacturing plant in mid-March with initial employment of less than 100. The city of Albuquerque has awarded a \$947,000 contract to Kent Nowlin Construction Incorporated to install sewer lines in the South Valley. Ethicon Incorporated officials formally dedicated its new medical supplies manufacturing plant in February. The plant presently employs approximately 160 workers and the company plans to hire an additional 100 workers by the end of the year.

ALAMOGORDO/RUIDOSO AREA - The White Sands shopping mall in Alamogordo is scheduled to open March 10th. The new mall, which will have a total of 20 stores including J. C. Penny and Beall's department stores, is being constructed around the existing K Mart department store in north Alamogordo. Silverton Construction Company of El Paso was low bidder of \$1.3 million for high school and elementary school building

improvements in Cloudcroft. The Defense Department has budgeted \$6.4 million in fiscal 1983 for various construction projects at Holloman Air Force Base.

ARTESIA / CARLSBAD AREA - The City of Carlsbad is working to open a new industrial park by this spring and a local firm, H & E Electric, has announced plans to build a \$300,000 facility in the park which would employ between 50 and 60 persons. International Minerals and Chemical Corporation officials have disclosed possible plans for a \$10 million expansion of its potash mine near Carlsbad. Additional corporate approval is needed for the expansion which is being announced on the heels of the closure of National Potash Company's Carlsbad area mine due to a depressed potash market. Construction is expected to begin in March on a new Furr's Cafeteria in Carlsbad.

BELEN/SOCORRO AREA - Midwest Construction of Nebraska City, Nebraska has received the \$1.2 million contract for work on the Middle Rio Grande Project conveyance channel near Socorro. Hacienda Home Centers, Incorporated has opened its fifth building supplies store in the state in Bosque Farms.

CLOVIS/PORTALES AREA - Levi Strauss Manufacturing Company has put its 250 workforce at the Clovis plant on a one week on, one week off schedule starting in late February due to a surplus in inventories. Santa Fe Railway laid off approximately 15 workers in Clovis as part of a system-wide cutback.

Rocky Mountain Ethanol Systems Incorporated is continuing with work on its 600,000 gallon capacity alcohol fuel plant near Clovis. The new plant should be complete in April and employ about eight workers full-time.

ESPANOLA AREA - Kyle Railways of San Diego, California has taken over the operations of the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad which runs from Chama to Antonito, Colorado. The firm plans to run the summer tourist line seven days a week.

FARMINGTON AREA - The Aztec school board is planning a new \$3.6 million building at the Aztec High School. Work could begin on the new classroom facility as early as this June. Olman Heath, a manufacturer of oilfield production equipment, is planning to expand its Farmington plant by 33,000 square feet, with completion scheduled for this Fall.

GALLUP / GRANTS AREA - Anaconda Copper Company shipped the last load of uranium from the Jackpile mine to its Bluewater mill in mid-February as the firm prepares for the shutdown of the mill. Approximately 800 workers will be laid off at the end of March when the mill shutdown is complete.

Santa Fe Mining Company officials have disclosed that development work on the new Lee Ranch Coal Mine is expected to begin late this spring. Western Nuclear Corporation officials have announced a cutback in hours at its McKinley County uranium mine due to continuing deterioration of the uranium market. The cutback will affect approximately 90 employees.

Basin Motor Company of Farmington is planning to open a new Chevrolet dealership in Gallup employing approximately 60 persons. The State Highway Department is planning a \$6.5 million highway project for I-40 near Milan.

HOBBS/LOVINGTON AREA - AMHOBBS, a division of Affiliated Mortgage and Development Company (AMDEC), is developing a \$14 million subdivision in north Hobbs. The development, called College Meadows Subdivision, will consist of 240 single family lots and about 20 multi-family units.

W. A. Jourdan Construction of Hobbs was awarded the contract for a \$450,000 office complex adjacent to Lea Regional Hospital. A Roswell developer, Hugh Hood, wants to construct a \$5.5 million, 152 unit, luxury apartment complex in Hobbs. Work began in early February on the new 25,000 square foot Furrs Supermarket in Lovington.

LAS CRUCES AREA - Construction is underway on the new medium-security prison located west of Las Cruces. The prison is estimated to cost about \$31.5 million and be completed by September 1983. The facility is expected to employ 275-300 persons full-time with a annual payroll of \$5.7 million. Morrison-Knudson Company is the project construction coordinator and all work will be subcontracted. An independent franchise of Hilton Hotels Corporation is scheduled to be built near the Mesilla Valley Mall within the next 6 months. The new hotel will have 200 rooms and occupy approximately 10 acres. Care More Incorporated, a Tennessee based nursing home operator, is planning to construct and operate a new 110-bed nursing home in T or C. The 34,000 square foot facility should be complete in 1983 and employ approximately 70 persons.

LAS VEGAS AREA - The State Highway Department opened bids in late February on the estimated \$4.1 million final stage of work on Interstate 25 north of Las Vegas.

LOS ALAMOS AREA - The U. S. Department of Energy has scrapped plans to build the proposed \$133 million, 50 megawatt geothermal generating plant in the Jemez Mountains because a federal study found the plant economically unfeasible. Initial development work on the proposed Baca Geothermal Demonstration Plant began in 1978 and approximately \$65 million, mostly federal money, had been spent on the project. Zia Company recently laid off about 40 persons due to decreased work orders from Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). The Banes Company of Albuquerque was awarded a \$450,000 contract to build a laboratory facility at LANL.

ROSWELL AREA - A group of local investors headed by John C. Foster and Tommy J. Ansley have purchased a 90-acre piece of land in northeast Roswell with plans to develop the property into single family residences, townhouses and condominiums. Details of the project were not disclosed; however the expected cost is anticipated to be in the \$5 million range. First City Financial Corporation has applied to the Federal Reserve Bank in Dallas for authority to charter a national bank in Roswell.

SANTA FE AREA - The State Highway department opened construction bids in late February on several highway projects around the State, the largest being an estimated \$8 million project on Interstate 25 south of Santa Fe. Universal Door and Window, a local manufacturer, is planning to build a new 15,000 square foot plant in the Santa Fe Industrial Park which would employ approximately 25 workers.

SILVER CITY AREA - Work on Chino Mine's \$280 million concentrator project is now beginning to wind down as construction employment dropped from a high of 2,000 last November to approximately 1,200 in mid-February. Bechtel Corporation is the prime contractor for the project. Mesilla Valley Construction was awarded a \$3.2 million contract to expand Silver City High School.

TAOS AREA - Taos City officials have announced plans to begin work this July on a \$3.25 million water sewer line improvement project.

U. S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

January 1982 CPI-U - 282.5
 (Base 1967=100)
 CPI-W - 282.1
 CPI-U - All Urban Consumers
 CPI-W - Urban Wage Earners and
 Clerical Workers

NEW MEXICO AND ALBUQUERQUE SMSA
1981 CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES
BY MONTH AND ANNUAL AVERAGE

NEW MEXICO

1981	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
January	559,117	514,596	44,521	8.0
February	561,693	518,025	43,668	7.8
March	568,090	523,632	44,458	7.8
April	571,482	530,936	40,546	7.1
May	577,957	537,046	40,911	7.1
June	585,625	540,171	45,454	7.8
July	580,720	539,488	41,232	7.1
August	578,549	539,510	39,039	6.7
September	581,661	541,932	39,729	6.8
October	584,277	542,274	42,003	7.2
November	576,957	535,366	41,591	7.2
December	573,870	533,024	40,846	7.1
Annual Average	575,000	533,000	42,000	7.3

ALBUQUERQUE SMSA

1981	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
January	209,132	192,114	17,018	8.1
February	209,666	192,868	16,798	8.0
March	209,158	192,632	16,526	7.9
April	212,055	197,048	15,007	7.1
May	212,460	197,707	14,753	6.9
June	214,810	198,419	16,391	7.6
July	213,171	197,740	15,431	7.2
August	213,095	198,080	15,015	7.0
September	214,270	198,578	15,692	7.3
October	212,458	196,780	15,678	7.4
November	210,967	195,354	15,613	7.4
December	210,211	195,185	15,026	7.1
Annual Average	211,788	196,042	15,746	7.4

NEW MEXICO LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES BY AREA

1981 ANNUAL AVERAGES ^{1/}

	<u>CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE</u>	<u>EMPLOYMENT</u>	<u>UNEMPLOYMENT</u>	<u>RATE</u>
NEW MEXICO	575,000	533,000	42,000	7.3
ALBUQUERQUE SMSA ^{2/}	211,788	196,042	15,746	7.4
LAS CRUCES SMSA ^{3/}	35,386	32,626	2,760	7.8
Catron	931	813	118	12.7
Chaves	21,578	20,311	1,267	5.9
Colfax	6,470	6,092	378	5.8
Curry	14,466	13,601	865	6.0
De Baca	1,016	989	27	2.7
Eddy	22,847	21,809	1,038	4.5
Grant	11,132	10,357	775	7.0
Guadalupe	1,557	1,394	163	10.5
Harding	745	730	15	2.0
Hidalgo	2,426	2,317	109	4.5
Lea	31,773	30,860	913	2.9
Lincoln	6,591	6,387	204	3.1
Los Alamos	10,529	10,264	265	2.5
Luna	5,130	4,654	476	9.3
McKinley	19,288	17,330	1,958	10.2
Mora	1,102	756	346	31.4
Otero	13,480	12,477	1,003	7.4
Quay	4,989	4,681	308	6.2
Rio Arriba	10,646	8,699	1,947	18.3
Roosevelt	7,355	7,135	220	3.0
San Juan	40,132	36,894	3,238	8.1
San Miguel	8,335	7,454	881	10.6
Santa Fe	36,671	34,363	2,308	6.3
Sierra	3,138	3,019	119	3.8
Socorro	4,516	4,156	360	8.0
Taos	9,757	8,363	1,394	14.3
Torrance	2,271	2,203	68	3.0
Union	2,456	2,371	85	3.5
Valencia	26,501	23,854	2,647	10.0

^{1/} All estimates are made in strict accordance with methodology provided by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

^{2/} Includes Bernalillo and Sandoval Counties.

^{3/} Dona Ana County.

OFFICIAL LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

	PRELIMINARY JANUARY 1982 ^{1/}				REVISED DECEMBER 1981 ^{1/}				REVISED JANUARY 1981 ^{1/}			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
STATEWIDE	569,971	525,648	44,323	7.8	573,870	533,024	40,846	7.1	559,117	514,596	44,521	8.0
ALBUQUERQUE SMSA ^{2/}	208,032	192,102	15,930	7.7	210,211	195,185	15,026	7.1	209,132	192,114	17,018	8.1
LAS CRUCES SMSA ^{3/}	35,381	32,758	2,623	7.4	36,465	33,978	2,487	6.8	33,993	31,029	2,964	8.7
Catron	869	656	213	24.5	880	713	167	19.0	858	707	151	17.6
Chaves	21,419	20,399	1,020	4.8	21,638	20,508	1,130	5.2	20,727	19,689	1,038	5.0
Colfax	6,080	5,694	386	6.3	6,130	5,762	368	6.0	5,983	5,559	424	7.1
Curry	14,125	13,329	796	5.6	14,318	13,521	797	5.6	14,249	13,275	974	6.8
De Baca	951	917	34	3.6	1,048	967	81	7.7	940	910	30	3.2
Eddy	23,125	22,154	971	4.2	23,475	22,499	976	4.2	21,527	20,501	1,026	4.8
Grant	12,630	11,262	1,368	10.8	11,348	10,488	860	7.6	9,908	9,249	739	7.4
Guadalupe	1,468	1,315	153	10.4	1,506	1,385	121	8.0	1,430	1,230	200	14.0
Harding	624	593	31	5.0	663	655	8	1.2	619	604	15	2.4
Hidalgo	2,277	2,162	115	5.1	2,333	2,217	116	5.0	2,259	2,127	132	5.8
Lea	33,068	31,959	1,109	3.4	32,583	31,887	696	2.1	29,824	28,781	1,043	3.5
Lincoln	6,354	6,086	268	4.2	6,366	6,159	207	3.3	5,908	5,655	253	4.3
Los Alamos	10,653	10,369	284	2.7	10,394	10,225	169	1.6	10,333	10,110	223	2.2
Luna	4,899	4,438	461	9.4	4,935	4,527	408	8.3	4,839	4,284	555	11.5
McKinley	18,915	16,930	1,985	10.5	19,118	17,312	1,806	9.4	19,061	17,123	1,938	10.2
Mora	1,019	653	366	35.9	1,075	722	353	32.8	1,144	706	438	38.3
Otero	13,189	12,056	1,133	8.6	13,236	12,237	999	7.5	13,159	12,098	1,061	8.1
Quay	4,701	4,335	366	7.8	4,788	4,457	331	6.9	4,684	4,330	354	7.6
Rio Arriba	10,564	8,193	2,371	22.4	10,481	8,501	1,980	18.9	10,791	8,469	2,322	21.5
Roosevelt	7,162	6,855	307	4.3	7,318	7,089	229	3.1	7,239	6,981	258	3.6
San Juan	41,048	37,297	3,751	9.1	41,332	37,724	3,608	8.7	38,385	35,409	2,976	7.8
San Miguel	8,574	7,641	933	10.9	8,343	7,447	896	10.7	8,136	7,103	1,033	12.7
Santa Fe	35,923	33,461	2,462	6.9	35,963	33,654	2,309	6.4	35,885	33,283	2,602	7.3
Sierra	2,864	2,792	72	2.5	3,151	3,022	129	4.1	2,796	2,714	82	2.9
Socorro	4,316	3,933	383	8.9	4,597	4,206	391	8.5	4,272	3,957	315	7.4
Taos	10,212	8,580	1,632	16.0	10,295	8,759	1,536	14.9	10,059	8,540	1,519	15.1
Torrance	2,194	2,087	107	4.9	2,302	2,224	78	3.4	2,059	1,968	91	4.4
Union	2,216	2,114	102	4.6	2,276	2,190	86	3.8	2,256	2,181	75	3.3
Valencia, Cibola ^{4/}	25,119	22,528	2,591	10.3	25,302	22,804	2,498	9.9	26,582	23,910	2,672	10.1

^{1/} All estimates are made in strict accordance with methodology provided by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

^{2/} Bernalillo and Sandoval Counties.

^{3/} Dona Ana County.

^{4/} Estimates for Cibola County are not yet available.